

BOOK REVIEW

WERNER DRESSENDORFER. 2010. **Album Vilmorin: The Vegetable Garden**. (ISBN: 978-3836517775). Taschen, Hohenzollernring 53, D-50672 Köln, Germany. (**Orders:** www.taschen.com). \$99.99, 34 pp., 46 plates, each 13.5" × 19.25", box measures 16.5" × 22".

From the publisher: "The Vilmorins, though only producers and merchants on the Paris market, contributed enormously to the botanical and agronomic knowledge of their time. Their first catalogue, comprising all kinds of seeds for kitchen-garden vegetables—including legumes, salad plants, flower seeds and bulbs, appeared in 1766. It was followed by a series of *Publications périodiques* in which the quality of botanical and horticultural information was equaled only by the illustrations. By the mid-19th century, the firm had become the most important seed company in the world ... The company published its splendid *Album Vilmorin. Les Plantes potagères* (The Vegetable Garden, 1850–1895) featuring 46 magnificent color plates. ... These illustrations—reproduced here with exquisite care and accuracy—transcend mere artistic interest, beautiful as they are; they are also a valuable resource for anyone researching cultivarietal evolution, and old varieties of fruits and vegetables."

These reproductions are beautiful, rich in color, and are presented in a very pleasing manner. This loose leaf box collection features simply beautiful illustrations, printed on deckle-edge, high-quality paper. The color and print quality are excellent. The box is very nicely executed and a lovely thirty-four page booklet accompanies the set. It is printed in English, French, and German and includes illustrations not reproduced in the plates. There is an index to the plates and a bibliography. Taschen is to be commended for continuing to produce such high quality reproductions at a price nearly anyone could afford.

If you like botanical art, this collection is for you. Each print is certainly frame-worthy. Recommended for academic libraries and those specializing in botany or agriculture.

—Gary L. Jennings, Librarian,

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BOOKS RECEIVED/REVIEWS FORTHCOMING

TIMOTHY P. SPIRA. 2011. **Wildflowers & Plant Communities of the Southern Appalachian Mountains & Piedmont: A Naturalist's Guide to the Carolinas, Virginia, Tennessee, & Georgia**. (ISBN: 978-0-8078-7172-0, pbk.). The University of North Carolina Press, 116 South Boundary St., Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27514-380, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.uncpress.unc.edu). \$26.00, 521 pp., color throughout, 6" × 9".

TIMOTHY A. BLOCK AND ANN FOWLER RHOADS. ILLUSTRATIONS BY ANNA ANISKO. 2011. **Aquatic Plants of Pennsylvania: A Complete Reference Guide**. (ISBN: 978-0-8122-4306-2, hbk.). University of Pennsylvania Press, 3905 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104-4112, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.upenn.edu/pennpress). \$59.95, 308 pp., line drawings, distribution maps, color photos, 7" × 10".

ROBERT H. MOHLENBROCK. 2010. **Aquatic and Standing Water Plants of the Central Midwest. Nelumbonaceae to Vitaceae: Water Lotuses to Grapes**. (ISBN: 978-0-0893-2904-0, hbk.). Southern Illinois University Press, 1915 University Press Dr., SIUC Mail Code 6806, Carbondale, Illinois, 62901, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.siupress.com/, custserv@press.uchicago.edu). \$67.00, 465 pp., 346 line drawings, 6" × 9".